

MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
MARCH 28, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Scott, Sutphen, Block, Ashworth, Furlong
Staff: Jones, Silsby

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Scott at 7:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF February 22, 2012

MOTION: To approve the minutes of February 22, 2012

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously.

IV. NEW APPLICATIONS – None

V. PENDING APPLICATIONS

1. Precision Motors Modification, 2400 Gold Star Highway

Staff noted that the Agency has walked the site and that the parking area has been shifted north.

Engineer Paul Hallisey and Tom LaFrance/owner were present. Hallisey reviewed the plans and stated that the stone parking area location has been changed. This project will allow more employee parking. He noted that a sidewalk along Colonel Ledyard Highway will be constructed as part of a subdivision to the north.

After the Agency voiced concerns about long-term and overnight parking, they decided to include a condition which would prevent this activity.

MOTION: To approve the Precision Motors application for the following reasons:

1. There is no loss of wetland or watercourse as a result of this project.
2. The parking lot is proposed for a previously disturbed area.

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Block, so voted unanimously

This permit is subject to the four standard conditions and the following additional condition:

1. There shall be no overnight parking in the new gravel parking lot.
2. New London Road, Water Main Extension, Fishtown Brook Bridge

Staff reviewed to the site walk that was held on March 7, 2012 and the temporary disturbance within the wetlands. She noted that a few changes have been made to accommodate the Engineer's comments.

Ray Valentini of Groton Utilities reviewed the plans. He stated that an auger will be used to dig the holes for the concrete piers. Specifications were submitted about the de-watering. Approval is pending from the State.

Staff stated that pre-construction meetings were held last fall.

MOTION: To approve the New London Road Waterline Extension, Fishtown Brook Crossing application for the following reasons:

1. The State Department of Transportation will not allow the waterline to be jacked under the brook.
2. The proposed wetland disturbance will be temporary.

This permit is subject to the four standard conditions and the following additional condition:

1. The conditions of wetland permit 11-08 shall also apply to this permit.

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Tarasevich Mobile Home Park, 30 Tower Avenue, Show Cause Hearing (Continued)

Staff stated that Attorney Rob Avena submitted a request to Table this Show Cause Hearing until the April 25, 2012 Inland Wetland Agency meeting.

Staff reported that she has spoken to the State Flood Plan Coordinator about the minor fill in a floodway. The Town can handle the issue without state involvement.

Staff has advised Attorney Avena to make an application to allow the fill to remain. The Agency can delay a decision on the enforcement order until they evaluate the permit application.

MOTION: To Table the show cause hearing until April 25, 2012.

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Report of Chair - None
2. Report of Staff

Staff reviewed the Public Works Department's request to install riprap along River Road to protect guardrails. The Agency agreed that this work falls within the scope of the existing permit. A photo was presented.

Furlong inquired about a mobile home park near Laurelwood Drive. She expressed her concern about heavy equipment being parked on site. Staff explained that the owner trades out mobile homes from time to time. Staff will check into this for clarification.

Furlong asked about a used car business on Route 184. She believes there are wetlands at the back of the property. Because the cars are parked on a hill, Furlong is concerned about runoff from old cars flowing downhill into wetlands. She inquired about an existing permit being in place. Staff will look into this.

Scott expressed a concern about an excavator parked near the Aquarion Water property. Staff will look into this.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Barbara Block, Secretary
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Robin Silsby
Office Assistant II